

# INTRODUCTORY PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT TRAINING

## 2 DAYS

This course provides participants with an introduction to the Superfund site assessment process and the fundamentals of the preliminary assessment phase of this process as it applies to both non-federal and federal facility sites. The site assessment process is used to screen hazardous waste sites for inclusion on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) National Priorities List and to prioritize sites for further investigation and remediation. Participants will receive the background necessary to perform preliminary assessments and to develop preliminary site scores. The course is designed for individuals with little experience in the initial evaluation of hazardous waste sites.

The course format is based on the EPA document entitled Guidance for Performing Preliminary Assessments Under CERCLA, and on any other EPA documentation currently available. The focus is on implementing EPA preliminary assessment guidance rather than on emphasizing the mechanics of scoring sites using the Hazard Ranking System. The site assessment process is currently under review by the U.S. EPA; therefore, modifications to reflect these changes will be made with the concurrence of the U.S. EPA.

Topics to be discussed include an overview of the site assessment process; the fundamentals of the Hazard Ranking System; data collection strategies; site reconnaissance and documentation procedures; site, source, and waste characterization techniques; groundwater, surface water, air, and soil exposure pathway analyses; and preliminary assessment scoring methodology, and the Federal Agency Hazardous Waste Compliance Docket.

This course is immediately followed by the 2-day Introductory Site Inspection Training course. It is highly recommended that students request both courses when registering. Each day, the Preliminary Assessment course begins at approximately 8:00 a.m. and ends at 5:00 p.m.

After completing this course, participants will be able to:

- Describe how the outcome of the site assessment process affects the placement of non-federal and federal facility hazardous waste sites on the National Priorities List (NPL).
- Understand the relationship of the Federal Agency Hazardous Waste Compliance Docket to the NPL.
- Define key phrases related to preliminary assessments.
- Conduct a preliminary assessment data search and develop a site reconnaissance plan.
- Perform preliminary assessment site scoring.

*Note: Scientific calculators are required.*

Continuing Education Units: 1.3

### **Course Dates and Locations**

#### **2001**

November 27–28

Region 4

## Introductory Preliminary Assessment Training (cont.)

### 2002

February 12–13

Region 7

April 23–24

Region 9

March 12–13

Region 10